

XX. *Description of a new Species of Psidium.* By A. B. Lambert, Esq. F. R. S. V. P. L. S.

Read November 17, 1812.

I BEG leave to offer to the Society an account and a figure of a new species of *Psidium* which has ripened its fruit in my stove at Boyton this summer. The late celebrated Dr. Anderson of St. Vincent's, in his Catalogue of the Plants growing in the Botanical Garden of that Island, has named it *Psidium polycarpon*; and in a manuscript of his, in my possession, I find the following description.

PSIDIUM POLYCARPON.

TAB. XVII.

Psidium foliis ovato-oblongis acutis subcrenatis, supra pubescentibus; subtus rugosis scabris, pedunculis trifloris, ramis reclinatis.

Frutex vix tripedalis, ramosus. *Rami* elongati, graciles, reclinati. *Folia* ovalia seu ovato-oblonga, brevius petiolata. *Pedunculi* axillares solitarii, interdum gemini, sericeo-tomentosi, apice dichotomi, 3-flori. *Flos* intermedius sessilis; laterales pedicellati. *Poma* subrotunda, congesta, parva.

This is a very small shrub, nearly three feet high, divided into a few long straggling branches, the lower ones lying on the ground, the upper bending towards it. The young twigs are round
and

and hairy. The leaves have opposite footstalks; they are near five inches long, and more than two broad, of an oval-oblong form, with upward-curved ribs; smooth, with scattered hairs, above; rough and hairy beneath.—They cover the greater part of the branch, each pair one inch and a half distant. From the bottom of each comes out a short stalk, which supports three flowers, and they turn into as many round yellow fruits, the size of a large cherry, of a delicate taste, far superior to the common Guava.—The numerous fruits, when full grown, form a continued cluster on the greater part of the branch, which is bended to the ground by their weight. This species is indigenous to the grassy savannahs of Trinidad; from whence plants were sent to the St. Vincent's garden in 1792. It is seldom without fruit, and is propagated by cuttings, like the common Guava.